

REMARKS

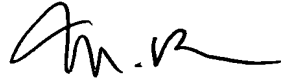
Claims 1-9 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2-4, 7, 8 and 9 are amended.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative during the January 7, 2005 telephone interview. The substance of the discussion held is incorporated into this Amendment.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Michael Britton
Registration No. 47,260

JAO:MQB/ale

Date: January 26, 2005

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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